

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY D/LOS:OESKIN:LB

APPROVED BY D/LOS:JNMOORE

EA/IMS - MR. GILL

USUN - AMB. STEVENSON

D/LOS - MR. MCINTYRE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 047240

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR

SUBJ: LOS: AMBASSADOR JAYAKUMAR

REF : STATE 36434

1. WE HAVE HEARD THAT AMBASSADOR JAYAKUMAR, SINGAPORE'S CHIEF LOS SPOKESMAN, MAY SHORTLY LEAVE HIS POST AS PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO UN AND RETURN TO ACADEMIC POSITION IN SINGAPORE AND THAT HE MAY NOT BE ASKED TO ATTEND LOS CONFERENCE IN CARACAS. JAYAKUMAR WAS CLASSMATE AT YALE OF OUR DEPUTY SPECIAL REP PROFESSOR MOORE AND THEY HAVE A VERY CLOSE WORKING RELATION. IN ADDITION, HE HAS BEEN AMONG THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE NEGOTIATORS IN LOS PREPARATORY STAGES AND HAS BEEN EXTREMELY ABLE ADVOCATE OF LAND-LOCKED AND SHELF-LOCKED GROUP POSITIONS. AS SUCH HE HAS BEEN A STRONG INFLUENCE IN OPPOSITION TO OVERLY BROAD ASSERTIONS BY COASTAL STATES AND HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY HELPFUL ON SUCH VITAL QUESTIONS AS PASSAGE THROUGH STRAITS AND ARCHIPELAGOS. HIS STATUS AS A CONFERENCE LEADER WAS CLEARLY RECOGNIZED BY CONFERENCE PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE CALLING ON HIM TO CHAIR IMPORTANT WORKING GROUP ON RULES
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OF PROCEDURE AT THE DEC ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION. IT WOULD

BE HIGHLY DESIRABLE IF JAYAKUMAR WOULD CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN LOS NEGOTIATIONS IN CARACAS. WE BELIEVE THAT GOS SHOULD BE MADE AWARE OF THE IMPORTANT ROLE THAT JAYAKUMAR HAS PLAYED IN NEGOTIATIONS AND IMPORTANCE FOR GOS AND LAND-

LOCKED GROUP TO HAVE BEST POSSIBLE SPOKESMEN AT CARACAS CONFERENCE. MOREOVER, HIS PRESENCE AT CARACAS (AND AT A SECOND SESSION IF NECESSARY) IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE FOR ACHIEVING JOINT U.S. AND SINGAPORE STRAITS AND ARCHIPELAGO OBJECTIVES.

2. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED, AS APPROPRIATE, TO INDICATE TO GOS OUR STRONG VIEW THAT JAYAKUMAR HAS BEEN ONE OF THE MOST RESPECTED LEADERS IN LOS NEGOTIATIONS, AND AN EFFECTIVE SPOKESMAN FOR THE INTERESTS OF SINGAPORE, PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO VITAL STRAITS ISSUES OF MUTUAL CONCERN. AS GOS AWARE, U.S. SHARES MANY COMMON INTERESTS WITH SINGAPORE AND HAS HAD A PARTICULARLY CLOSE WORKING RELATION WITH JAYAKUMAR. AS SUCH WE HOPE THAT HE WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY ACTIVE ROLE IN THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE AND SPECIFICALLY THAT HE WILL BE PRESENT IN CARACAS.

GDS. KISSINGER

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